

## 62 U.S. senators oppose Saudi deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sixty-two senators have signed a letter urging President Ronald Reagan to shelve plans to sell \$1.4 billion in missiles and other weapons to Saudi Arabia, two leading opponents of the proposed arms deal said Monday. Senators Alan Cranston, a Democrat from California, and Robert Packwood, a Republican from Oregon, said they expect the White House to send a formal sales proposal to Congress this week. Once notified, Congress has 90 days in which to approve or block the proposed sale, which the two senators said will include 1,600 Maverick air-to-air missiles, a dozen F-15 jet aircraft, \$300 million in advanced electronic equipment and a package of improvements for M-60 tanks and artillery vehicles already in the Saudi inventory. The letter, signed by 46 Democrats and 16 Republicans, faulted the Saudis for allegedly not making "substantial" efforts to enhance the Middle East peace process and for continuing to fund the Palestine Liberation Organization. Mr. Cranston and Mr. Packwood said in a statement that they believe the sale of additional weapons and support equipment to Saudi Arabia was not in the interest of the United States and its allies, including Israel.

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## Kuwait tightens internal security

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has tightened security around power and water plants to prevent sabotage. Electricity and Water Minister Mohammad Abdul Muhsen Al Refai said in remarks published Monday. He told Al Qabas newspaper new security walls had been built and state-of-the-art security systems installed. Iran has threatened to attack economic targets in Kuwait because of the emirate's support for Baghdad in the Iran-Iraq war. Pro-Iranian militants have been convicted of placing bombs in oil installations in Kuwait, only 50 kilometres from the warfront.

## Goria: Bonn may aid Gulf force

BONN (R) — Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Goria said after meeting Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Monday that West Germany was considering sending replacements for Western naval vessels dispatched to patrol the Gulf. Mr. Goria, on his first visit here as prime minister, told a news conference: "Bonn intends to give a contribution (to Western nations involved in the Gulf) by guarding other international waters for them." A Defence Ministry official said West Germany was barred by its constitution from sending troops outside the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) region. But he said diplomatic pressure was mounting for Bonn to help its NATO allies by filling in for their naval forces moved to the Gulf from international waters in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

## Amal men attack SLA position

BEIRUT (R) — Amal fighters blasted a pro-Israeli militia position in South Lebanon with rockets and machinegun fire on Monday, security sources said. They said the South Lebanon Army (SLA) post attacked was near Yater, just outside the so-called "security zone" created by Israel along its border in southern Lebanon. In Tel Aviv, an Israeli army spokesman said there was an attack on the SLA position but no Israeli forces were involved and there were no casualties. The security sources said Israeli and SLA gunners shelled Yater and nearby Kafra in retaliation, causing heavy damage but no casualties.

## Peres trying to meet Wu

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his Chinese counterpart may meet this week in what would be the highest-ranking diplomatic encounter between the countries, a government official said Monday. Mr. Peres and China's Wu Xueqian are both in New York to attend the 42nd session of the U.N. General Assembly.

## Labour-Likud gap seen narrowing

TEL AVIV (AP) — The gap in public support for Israel's two major political blocs has narrowed in recent months, according to a public opinion poll released late Sunday. The poll, conducted among 1,098 Israelis by the independent Modin Ezrahi institute, also showed a drop in support for Kach, the extremist right-wing and anti-Arab party led by American-born Rahi Meir Kahane.

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## Mine scare closes major sealane in Gulf; Iraqis hit tanker, Iran pounds Basra

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — New mines were reported in a busy Gulf tanker shipping lane on Monday as Iraqi jets bombed an Iranian tanker and Iranian artillery pounded the Iraqi port city of Basra.

Following the discovery of the mines, the major sealane in the southern Gulf was closed to commercial shipping and Iran was believed to have planted the devices in scattered locations of the area, shipping executives reported.

Well-placed sources said the United States was operating on the assumption that the Iranians had seeded the waterway with the explosives in retaliation for last week's attack on a mine-layer in the central Gulf.

The shipping executives, quoted by AP, said the deepwater channel, about 32 kilometres off the bustling United Arab Emirates port of Dubai, would remain closed to navigation until a minesweeping operation was completed by U.S. navy and British warships.

Shipping sources quoted by Reuter said the U.S. navy had fished three mines out of the sea and at least two more were in the water.

Lloyd's shipping intelligence issued a warning that mines had been sighted and the area should be considered mined.

Dubai port radio advised tankers of unconfirmed reports of floating objects. "We are warning all vessels to keep a sharp lookout and navigate with caution," it said.

The latest mines apparently were spotted Sunday morning by the American missile destroyer Kidd, one of the warships of the 11-ship Middle East force that patrols the Gulf, according to shipping sources quoted by Reuter.

The raid was the latest in an

area which tentatively has been designated for the British mine-hunting units which recently arrived in the Gulf region to help safeguard navigation to the vital waterway.

Iraqi jets attacked an Iranian shuttle tanker near Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island in the northern Gulf, on Monday, shipping sources quoted by Reuter said.

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## Weinberger leaves Cairo pledging to seek arms embargo on Iran

CAIRO (Agencies) — U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger headed for home on Monday after talks on the Gulf crisis with Arab leaders, pledging Washington would press for a United Nations ban on arms sales to Iran.

"We want to get an arms embargo against Iran," Mr. Weinberger told reporters after one hour of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to round off a tour on which he also met the leaders of Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

He said members of the U.N. Security Council, which called on July 20 for a ceasefire between Iraq and Iran, should stay united to endorse an arms ban on Tehran.

It is vital to try to maintain unity in the United Nations if we can... we should proceed together on the embargo resolution as soon as we can," he said.

Mr. Weinberger said he found the leaders whom he met during his swift tour — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Bahrain's ruler, Sheikh Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifa, as well as Mr. Mubarak — fully understood Washington's position.

"We have a clear understanding with the leaders of the nations I have talked with on the importance of continuing to do what we are doing — the vital necessity of keeping the freedom of the seas and keeping international waters open," he added.

They have been talking about revenge since 1979. They practice international terrorism. That's the way they take their revenge on everybody," he said.

Mr. Weinberger's statement was an unusually explicit call by a U.S. cabinet member for an end to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's administration.

His talks with Mr. Mubarak also covered the U.S. military programme to Egypt; he said, without elaborating.

He urged him to come to talk over the situation. This is an opportunity to do that on the way to Moscow," Redman said.

Middle East peace efforts will be among the topics covered during the trip, he said.

Mr. Weinberger also said on Sunday that the Iran-Iraq war would not end unless an arms embargo is imposed on Iran and the "irrational, fanatical" government in Tehran is replaced.

Speaking from Bahrain in a U.S. television interview, Mr. Weinberger said an international arms embargo against Iran would help end the war.

"Short of that, or perhaps on a longer-range basis, there would need to be a totally different type of government in Iran because one can deal with an irrational, fanatical type of government of the kind that they have now," he said.

Mr. Weinberger's statement was an unusually explicit call by a U.S. cabinet member for an end to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's administration.

He had ended any hope for a rapprochement between the United States and Iran.

"Hasbani's revelations embarrassed both the American and Iranian governments and he had to pay the price for it," one diplomat commented.

He said Hasbani's public castigation and trial meant Americans would be unlikely to try to set up other unofficial links with Tehran.

The United States severed diplomatic ties with Iran in 1980 after young Iranian revolutionaries stormed its embassy and held 52 American hostage in Tehran for 444 days.

Hasbani's criminal history dates back to 1973, when he was found guilty of personally strangling to death Ayatollah Shamsiabadi, a clergyman who was loyal to Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. He was sentenced to life imprisonment, but was released after the Shah was overthrown in 1979.

His arrest had cast doubt on the political future of Ayatollah

Diplomats in Tehran said recently news of the Iranian scare

## Arab media praise Jordan's efforts for unity



AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab information media have praised His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to end inter-Arab conflicts in preparation for the extraordinary Arab summit which is to be held in Amman on Nov. 8.

The official radio of the United Arab Emirates broadcast a report on this topic on Monday, praising King Hussein's move to re-establish diplomatic ties with Libya, and the short working trips which His Majesty made to Syria where he met with President Hafez Al Assad, and to Oman, where he was holding talks with Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said on Monday.

The report also pointed out the importance of the visits in the context of the exceptional efforts made by Jordan to ensure the success of the Arab summit.

The Al Ittihad newspaper,

published in Abu Dhabi, called on the extraordinary summit to come out with a strong and unified position which would ensure a common destiny for all Arab states, especially at a time when extreme tension is gripping the Gulf area as a result of the Arab-Iraq conflict.

The newspaper warned that, without a unified Arab position a quick solution to the war in the Gulf cannot be found, and, consequently, the road to Arab victory, unity and future would not be achieved.

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al Watan reiterated that discussing the development of the Iran-Iraq war is at the core of Arab commitment to settling the Arab-Iraq conflict.

It said that the Iran-Iraq war

was only one aspect of the many-sided Arab-Israeli conflict, "which is being reopened by the coalition of Iran and Israel," and that the "Israeli enemy, after securing the occupation of Arab territory, is not satisfied with its achievements and is, therefore, also working towards the continuation of the Gulf war and backing Iran's refusal to accept peace.

Another Kuwaiti newspaper, Al Siassat, pointed out that if the Arab summit was to be held then that would mean that the Iran-Iraq war, with all the human and economic losses during its course, would have achieved a positive historical point, and that is to regain conclusive security, which is considered to be the modern parallel to Arab unity."

## U.S. said considering preemptive strikes on Iranian ships

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. military forces are considering the possibility of preemptive strikes against Iranian naval vessels suspected of carrying mines in the Gulf, according to a broadcast report on Monday.

The Pentagon declined comment on the NBC television report, but administration officials told Reuter it was unlikely that such an attack would be made unless an Iranian ship was caught without elaborating.

Egypt gets \$2.3 billion a year in U.S. military and economic assistance, making it the biggest recipient of U.S. aid after Israel. It has been at odds with Washington over terms for repaying \$4.5 billion of old military debt.

In a report from the Gulf, NBC said Iran had stepped up mining near Farsi Island after the Sept. 21 attack on an Iranian ship by U.S. helicopters. The White House said the landing ship Iran Ajr was laying mines at the time.

NBC reported that U.S. military sources in the Gulf said the Pentagon was considering the option of striking Iranian ships before they left Iranian waters if they were carrying mines.

"We will not comment on plans," navy commander Bob Prucha, a Pentagon spokesman, told Reuter when asked about the report.

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has threatened to repeat attacks if more actual mining is discovered.

But administration officials, who asked not to be identified, told Reuter that although a wide range of options has been under consideration in the Gulf for some time, preemptive strikes by U.S. aircraft or ships are unlikely without hard evidence that a ship is actually laying mines.

Three crewmen were killed and two are still missing following last week's rocket and machinegun attack by U.S. army special operations helicopters on the Iran Ajr 80 kilometres east-northwest of Bahrain.

U.S. forces blew up the captured ship over the weekend and the United States returned the 26 surviving crewmen to Iraq.

At least six mines were reported found off the United Arab Emirates port of Dubai on Sunday. The devices were more than 320 kilometres south of the point where the U.S. navy said the Iran Ajr was laying mines.

In Bahrain, U.S. Ambassador Sam Zakhari told a news conference on Monday that the U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger on Sunday delivered a letter to the emir from President Reagan "showing the willingness of the United States to stand with Bahrain in the Gulf and stressing the determination of the United States to keep the course and not to turn tail."

"This shows that those who say that the MTI (Islamic Tendency Movement) is a political organisation and not linked to terrorism are wrong. This demonstrates the illegal nature of the group," said one unidentified official quoted by Reuter.

Other senior officials said the government would not be swayed by the threats by the Islamic Jihad (Holy War) group to assassinate Tunisian leaders if death sentences were carried out.

"It will not deter us from our course," said one.

Monday's security operation indicated the authorities were taking the threats seriously. Police presence on the streets was discreet but reinforcements waited in dark blue vans at key positions throughout the city.

Sunday's sentences followed a

## Shultz to visit Middle East en route to Moscow next month

UNITED NATIONS (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will visit the Middle East in October before going to Moscow for arms control talks, the State Department announced on Monday.

He will visit Israel and possibly also Jordan and Egypt, although the itinerary is not yet firm, State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters.

"It's been a long time since the secretary has been to the region," Redman said.

A number of leaders have urged him to come to talk over the situation. This is an opportunity to do that on the way to Moscow," Redman said.

Middle East peace efforts will be among the topics covered during the trip, he said.

Mr. Shultz is in New York for two weeks for the opening of the U.N. General Assembly.

As announced last week, Mr. Shultz will be in Moscow Oct. 22 and 23 to review final documents for a treaty abolishing U.S.-Soviet intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) and to set dates for a U.S. summit this year between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Redman said Monday that the Middle East is always one of the topics on our agenda with the Soviets, so there are a number of reasons for this trip at this time,"

The spokesman said Mr. Shultz will probably leave Washington on Oct. 17 to be in Israel on Oct. 18 to receive honorary degrees

from the Weizman Institute and Tel Aviv University.

In Cairo, Egyptian Information Minister Sawsat Sharif said Mr. Shultz would visit Egypt next month for talks on the Gulf situation and Middle East peace prospects.

Mr. Sharif told the national Middle East News Agency (MENA) that Mr. Shultz telephoned President Hosni Mubarak and informed him of the visit which would take place in the second half of October.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger held an hour-long meeting with Mr. Mubarak on Monday during a stopover in Cairo on his way back from the Gulf.

## Arguments begin in Pan Am hijack trial

ADYALA, Pakistan (AP) — The alleged leader of five Palestinians accused of a bloody 1986 Pan Am airliner hijacking said Monday they were innocent because they had a right to fight America, Israel and imperialism.

Mohammad Hafiz Al Turk, who resided in Libya, told reporters during a break in his trial that all five belonged to "the Palestine revolution."

"We have the right to come to Pakistan to fight the Americans, Zionists and imperialism," declared Turk, who was handcuffed and chained to a prison guard.

Prosecutors called the first witness Monday to testify at the special one-man tribunal set up in the cinema of Pakistan's highest security prison, 34 kilometres from the federal capital of Islamabad.

All five are accused of "terrorism," hijacking, murder and weapons charges in the Sept. 5, 1986, seizure in Karachi of a Pan Am Jumbo jet. It ended with 21 dead and more than 200 wounded after a 17-hour standoff with Pakistani police commands.

Witnesses said at the time that four gunmen dressed as airport security guards drove a small van over the tarmac to the plane. They stormed aboard and demanded the Boeing 747 be flown to Cyprus to pick up some unidentified comrades. The three-man cockpit crew escaped through an emergency hatch in accordance with anti-hijack procedures.

# Soviets winning unlikely new friends in Lebanon

By Michael Kuli  
Reuter

BEIRUT — "Bravo bravo encore" shouted a rapturous audience of right-wing leaders at a hard-line Falangist gathering in their enclave north east of Beirut.

The enthusiastic cheers for a troupe of visiting Soviet dancers reflected Moscow's recent success in winning unlikely new friends in strife-torn Lebanon.

In Lebanon, Moscow's policy has traditionally centred on its support for the non-sectarian Communist Party, the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Syrian-backed opposition parties.

But since Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev came to power Moscow has bathed multiparty aid to its friends and reached out to the Falangist Lebanese Forces militia, an enemy of almost all Soviet allies.

Western diplomats see new Soviet moves in Lebanon as a bid to win wider regional influence for the Middle East policies.

New Soviet Ambassador Vassili Koltotoush has frequently visited Lebanese Forces leader Samir Geagea, figure bated by the opposition and avoided by the American ambassador.

The Soviets have even offered the Lebanese Forces 100 scholarships a year to study in the Soviet Union, militia sources say. The militia snatched them up.

Soviet aid to leftist militias has also increased and the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) can even boast Soviet-trained tank crews.

Moscow's determination to stay involved in Lebanon was shown early in 1986 when it offered to help to finance the U.N. peacekeeping force along the Israeli border in South Lebanon.

"We were very surprised when they responded to our request," Foreign Ministry Director-General Fuad Al Turk told Reuters. "They told us they were ready to help in any way."

Politicians said the new Soviet efforts in Lebanon were a change of tactics, not of policy, and were not in any case just for Lebanon's sake.

"The Soviet game in Lebanon

is part of a general drive to get away from an old reliance on just one or two allies in the Middle East," said a Western ambassador in Beirut.

Mr. Koltotoush has broken the previously stodgy image of Soviet diplomats, appearing on television with well-turned Arabic statements after meetings with leaders all over the country.

"He's active and good-looking, but I must say I worry about what lies behind his smiles," said Lena Khodr, a schoolteacher in mainly Muslim west Beirut.

"There is give and take," a politician said of Mr. Koltotoush's calls. "They are not the classical listening visits."

Diplomats say Moscow is keeping tabs on campaigns for the election of a new Falangist president next year and aims to increase influence in a country where success is quickly seen as a diplomatic plus in the whole region.

"They want good relations with all parties... so that all these will liaise with them or at least back their stand in any future Middle East peace conference," one politician said.

In west Beirut, the Soviet embassy has opened its heavily defended gates to woo Lebanese journalists with interviews, formerly hard-to-get, and vodka and caviar receptions.

The Soviet Cultural Centre has tripled its courses this year in Russian, painting, music, sport and dancing. The centre does not yet rival the American university in Beirut or other respected Western-funded institutions.

But Observers say the field is open since pro-Iranian kidnaps have forced most Westerners to leave west Beirut.

Thousands of Lebanese students already take advantage of cheaper study in Communist countries and their number is sure to rise in view of the collapse of the Lebanese economy.

## Chirac reiterates France's support for international Mideast peace conference

CAIRO (R) — French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac reiterated his government's support for an international conference on the Middle East, including all parties concerned and attended by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

He told an airport news conference after four hours of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak: "Of course we know it is difficult to organise, but all members of the European Community also support the idea."

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07:00 Newsdesk, 07:30 Music in Old

England 07:45 Reflections 07:50

Financial News 08:00 World News

08:20 24 Hours, News Summary 08:30

World News 08:30 Newsdesk 08:30

Religious program 08:30

08:30 ... Sports 08:30

Programme in Jordan

19:30 ... Programme review and varieties

20:00 ... News in Arabic

21:30 ... Arabic Series

22:30 ... Varieties

23:00 ... News summary in Arabic

... Close down

PROGRAMME TWO

17:45 ... "Embarquement imminent"

18:00 ... News in French

19:15 ... Camme (documentary)

19:30 ... News in (Arabic)

19:45 ... Varieties

20:00 ... News in Arabic

21:10 ... Death Trap

22:00 ... Magnum

22:00 ... News in English

22:30 ... One part special, "Joe Lewis"

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10:10 ... Just a Minic

10:30 ... Federal News

12:00 ... News Summary

13:00 ... Pop Session Cund.

14:00 ... News Bulletin

14:15 ... Instrumentals

14:30 ... Pop Talk

15:00 ... Concert Hour

16:00 ... News Summary

16:30 ... Instrumentals

16:45 ... Old Favourites

17:00 ... Science Report

17:30 ... Pop Session

18:00 ... News Summary

18:05 ... Top Twenty

18:30 ... Music

18:30 ... News Desk

18:30 ... Date with a Star

20:00 ... News Summary

21:05 ... Evening Show Cund.

22:00 ... News Summary

22:05 ... Evening Show Continued

23:05 ... Evening Show Continued

Politicians say the free-wheeling economy's failure and a 70 per cent fall in the value of the once-resilient Lebanese pound this year have partly undermined faith in Western values.

"Communist ideology won't make much headway but, in the current circumstances, people will accept help without asking where it comes from," said one.

The Soviet Union is also advancing into a breach left after militias backed by Syria and Iran forced the withdrawal of U.S. Marines backing President Amin Gemayel's efforts to extend his authority in 1982-84.

Syria, Moscow's closest Middle East ally, has now become a key arbiter of Lebanese events through its 25,000-man army garrison in three-quarters of Lebanon and in west Beirut.

Soviet cultural and diplomatic success has not been matched in trade which accounts for just five per cent of Lebanon's total.

"When we go to Moscow, we are the ones who buy them lunch... Soviet marketing and packaging are still very poor," said Fuad Tabbal, a major Lebanese trader with Communist countries.

There are obvious contradictions in the Soviet drive to win friends on all sides of Lebanon's complex power-struggle.

President Gemayel said Mr. Gemayel had made known he would like to be the first Lebanese president to visit Moscow, but officials said this was unlikely because Moscow did not want to embarrass Syria, which has strained ties with Mr. Gemayel.

The Soviets are smiling at everyone. The trouble is, they may run into the same problem as the Americans in trying to balance their friendships," the Western envoy said.

Lebanon has always looked seductively easy to influence but Moscow may take warning from British, French, Syrian, Israeli, American and Iranian attempts to dominate it this century.

"The Soviets are not the only power in Lebanon," a Christian politician said. "Lebanon is so complicated nobody can have the whole cheese. Many have tried and failed."

## Arafat predicts Iranian offensive in October

KUWAIT (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said in remarks published on Monday he expected a major new Iranian Gulf war offensive against Iraq's second city of Basra next month.

In an interview with Al Watan newspaper he predicted the offensive would start in the second week of October to coincide with a Shi'ite Muslim religious holiday.

Iran launched a major thrust towards Basra last December, coming within 12 miles of the city but failing to breach the main Iraqi defences.

Diplomats have speculated that Iran may open a new ground assault when scorching summer temperatures in the region begin to fall.

Mr. Arafat, who has close ties to Iraq, said an extraordinary Arab summit, scheduled to begin in Amman on Nov. 8, had a responsibility to end the seven-year-old conflict.

The summit was called to discuss the Gulf war, but Mr. Arafat said Saudi Arabia had also asked for agenda items on Lebanon and the Palestine conflict.

He said he expected all three issues to be discussed and the PLO had prepared a plan of action to present at the summit.

Mr. Arafat said Egypt supports his rejection of peace proposals made by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the Al Ittihad daily reported Sunday.

"Egypt supports the PLO's participation in the proposed Middle East international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations," Mr. Arafat was quoted as saying in an interview.

Peres was reported as proposing unilateral dialogue with Jordan for "autonomy" in the occupied West Bank.

"Egypt's stand is very close to the Palestinians, concerning the international conference," Mr. Arafat said, adding "there is a difference between our stand and Jordan."

Mr. Arafat urged Jordan not to "yield to the American-Israeli pressure to accept Peres' proposals, dubbing them a "new Camp David."

He was referring to the U.S.-sponsored peace treaty Egypt signed with Israel in 1979.

Egypt was shunned by the Arab World. But most Arab countries and the PLO have contacts with Cairo despite the absence of formal ties.

"Egypt will not accept the Peres proposal," Mr. Arafat said.

Mr. Arafat said he will discuss an international peace conference with Kremlin leaders when he visits Moscow next month.

Mrs. Casey told the Associated

## Anti-Khomeini fighters report biggest attack in Iran

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Dissident Iranian forces have attacked 20 military bases in western Iran, killing 66 soldiers, wounding 89 and capturing another 35 in one of their biggest operations against the Tehran regime, an opposition group claimed Monday.

The Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, or People's Warriors, said in a statement that 12 of the bases were destroyed and eight others overrun in the brigade-size assault last Friday by the National Liberation Army (NLA) of Iran. It said the attackers suffered no losses in the six-hour battle.

The Iraqi-based NLA, formed by Mujahedeen leader Masoud Rajavi last June, is composed mainly of forces from the Mujahedeen, which seeks to topple Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic regime.

Eight bases were overrun while NLA artillery units pounded 12 other nearby installations to prevent reinforcements being sent in to relieve the besieged garrisons, the statement said.

There was no independent confirmation of the Mujahedeen claim. But Iranian leaders have in recent months acknowledged that the opposition force is becoming an increasing scale in recent operations.

The Mujahedeen claimed dozens of bunkers were destroyed along with ammunitions dumps, command centres and fuel depots before the NLA force withdrew across the border carrying "large amounts" of captured weapons and military documents.

President Ali Khamenei conceded last week that more than 1,000 Iranian officials and soldiers

were killed by "terrorists" in recent months.

The dissidents said the dissident was killed, wounded or captured more than 3,000 "agents of repression" since January in more than 80 operations inside western Iran along a 300-mile (480-kilometre) stretch of the border.

The Mujahedeen statement was telecast to the Associated Press Bureau in Nicosia from the movement's headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq's capital. Iran and Iraq have been at war since September 1980.

The statement said the NLA force launched the attack before dawn against the 3rd Brigade of the 23rd Nodab Division of Iran's Revolutionary Guards in the Alan-Sardash region.

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NLA artillery units pounded 12 other nearby installations to prevent reinforcements being sent in to relieve the besieged garrisons, the statement said.

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The Mujahedeen, the most active of the anti-Khomeini groups, claim they have attacked Iranian government and intelligence officials in Tehran and other cities in recent months and stirred anti-government protests.

The leftist Mujahedeen split with Khomeini after the revolution when he began systematically eliminating rival factions in the turmoil following the shah's ouster in 1979.

Mr. Rajavi hopes to become a rallying point for opponents of Khomeini's regime and seeks to exacerbate divisions within the Iranian hierarchy.</p

## Medical mission to aid famine-stricken Sudan

AMMAN (Petra) — Another medical mission left Amman for Sudan Monday and was seen off by Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh, deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The mission — the thirteenth of its kind — is comprised of 17 personnel, including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and laboratory technicians carrying large amounts of medicines, medical equipment, and other appliances to be used in their relief work in drought and famine-stricken regions of Sudan.

Addressing the mission members, the minister wished them success in their endeavour, which is a continuation of efforts carried out by previous missions. Dr.

## Supply Ministry orders ban on refilling olive oil

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Industry, Trade, and Supply Raja Muasher on Monday issued a decree order which bans refilling olive oil in small plastic, glass, or metal containers and then selling them without prior written approval and licence from the ministry. The ruling goes into effect beginning next month.

In the order, Dr. Muasher also required that all factories and companies already licensed to fill vegetable oil refrain from providing the market with olive oil until it has been inspected by the ministry and undergoes lab tests to ensure that it fulfills all specifications.

In addition each container must carry a tag indicating the name of the producing company, its address, the origin of the oil, the packing date, and any other information required by the ministry.

Any containers which have

been refilled without prior written consent from the ministry will be confiscated, and any olive oil containers already on sale will undergo lab tests to ensure that they fulfill specifications. They will be confiscated if any tampering is revealed, and the producer will be referred to court.

This decision comes after an oil adulterator was apprehended for importing vegetable oil and mixing it with green colour additives before selling it as olive oil, which is in constant public demand.

An official from the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Supply said that the ministry will be making daily inspection tours to ensure that traders of olive oil are adhering to the decree order, and also to confiscate any containers which are being sold without prior consent from the ministry and without a licence to refill olive oil.

Posed films especially marked by the organising committee.

The competitor is to choose three of his/her best slides for each of the two programmed sections, Aqaba and the Isle of Pharaoh. These selected photos will later be given to the Nautilus Association, who will, in turn, use them for cultural programmes to benefit a UNICEF campaign.

The rules of the contest also include: divers must have scuba diving skill and, in addition, they must be aware that the organising committee will not be liable for any accidents which occur before, during, or after the period of the contest.

"International Blue Aqaba 1987" is being sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism and Royal Jordanian, and is organised by Nautilus Club Association, Roma, and Aqua Marina Hotel Club in Aqaba.

## Underwater photography contest begins in Aqaba

AQABA (J.T.) — An international underwater photography contest has begun in Aqaba with amateur and professional photographers from Arab and foreign countries taking part.

A statement, here, said that the three-day contest is designed to help promote Jordanian tourist attractions abroad. The event, entitled "International Blue Aqaba 1987" is being held in Aqaba until Sept. 30, when it will move to the Isle of Pharaoh from Oct. 1 through 5, according to the statement.

The contestants are allowed to use all the lenses, filters, and illuminators that they require, and all divers must bring their own diving gear, except diving tanks and weight belts, which will be provided by the organisers. Each competitor will be given colour slides, and will have five hours to hand in his or her ex-

posed films especially marked by the organising committee.

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## Mine scare closes Gulf sealane

[Continued from page 1]

Iraqi air blitz in which four tankers were hit over the weekend and which Baghdad has vowed to continue.

Lloyd's of London confirmed that four shuttle tankers had been attacked by Iraqi planes off the Iranian coast over the weekend, and said one crew member was killed, six to eight were missing and 17 were injured in one of the attacks.

Iran said it was bombing industrial and military targets in western Iraq in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Iranian economic facilities.

But Baghdad said the shells were hitting residential areas.

"Duzens of hospitals, schools, kindergartens, mosques, churches and shops have been destroyed and hundreds of houses demolished," the governor of Bursa told Reuters.

Anwar Said Al Hadithi said Iran had extended the bombardments to include 80 per cent of the residential areas of the city,

Bursa was a bustling port city before the Iran-Iraq war erupted in 1980 and a high percentage of its population are now estimated to have left the area.

But Governor Hadithi said able-bodied men have stayed behind. "The shelling may have forced them to move their children and women to safer areas, but the men in Bursa still carry arms to defend its soil..." he declared.

## Clergyman executed in Tehran

[Continued from page 1]

Montazeri, handpicked by the 87-year-old Khomeini to succeed him.

Hashemi had used his association with Ayatollah Montazeri to build his own militia among supporters of the hardline Montazeri.

But his problems began when he tried to confront the powerful parliament speaker. Hashemi Rafsanjani.

He was believed to have leaked to Al Shirat the secret U.S. arms sales to Iran with the aim of discrediting Rafsanjani by exposing the contacts he had had with the Americans.

But, diplomats say, Rafsanjani, an important contender for power after Khomeini, had obtained the revolutionary leader's approval before launching contacts with the Americans and Rafsanjani quickly arranged for

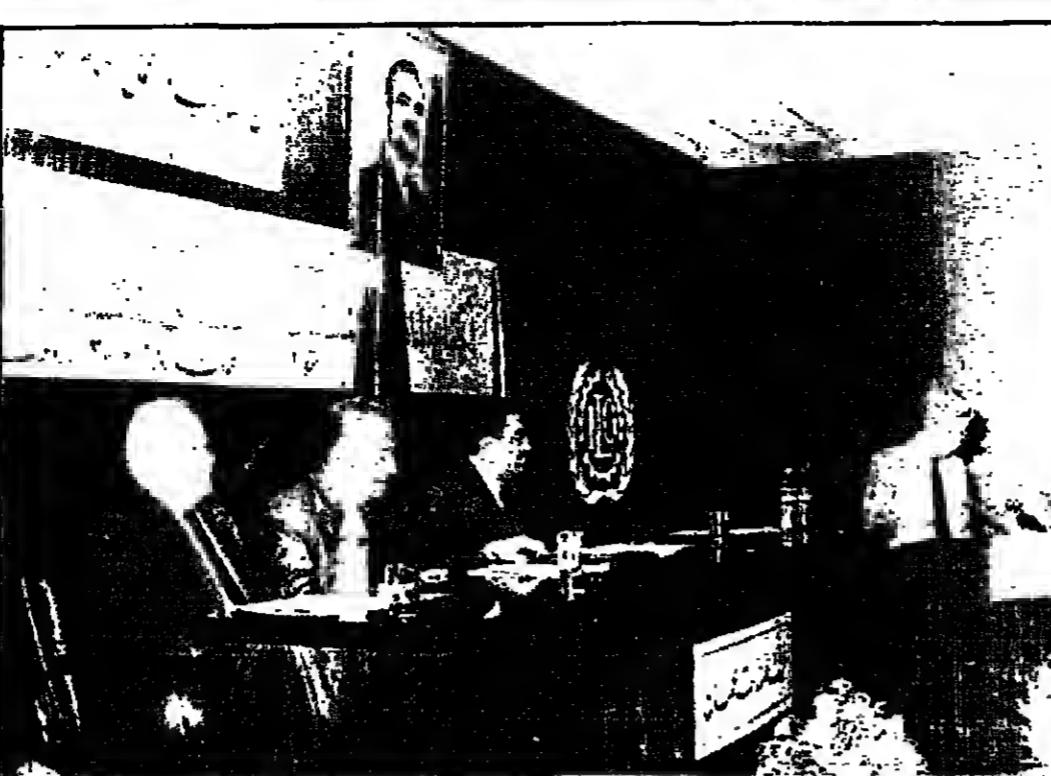
Hashemi to be thrown in jail. In Tehran, executions generally are carried out within a few days of sentencing.

But in Hashemi's case, implementation was put off for six weeks and no explanation has been given for the delay.

In Baghdad, a representative of the main Iranian opposition group, the Mujahideen-e-Khalq, said Hashemi's execution was a result of an internal struggle within the Iranian government.

"In an abortive attempt to control the crisis within the regime, Khomeini had no other option but to eliminate even his closest allies," Alireza Jafarzadeh, a top official of the Baghdad-based group, told Reuters.

Jafarzadeh said he expected a process of internal struggle within the Tehran regime would worsen rapidly in forthcoming days.



President of the Amman Chamber of Industry Islam Budeir (right), Director-General of the Social Security Corporation Mahdi Farhan (centre), and International Labour Organisation Representative

Ghaleb Burakat head a Monday meeting of Arab businessmen discussing the fate of Arab economies after the oil boom (Petra photo)

## Arab businessmen's meeting reviews post-oil boom economy

AMMAN (Petra) — Social Security Corporation Director-General Muhamdi Farhan on Monday said that the Arab World is currently passing through a delicate economic stage and that Arab economies are now returning to their natural state of stability following the oil boom, which was the prevailing economic phenomenon during the last 15 years.

Addressing the opening session of the second Asian Arab Businessmen Round Table Meeting on behalf of the Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Hui Hassan, Dr. Farhan said that, during the oil boom period, countries of the region built economic, industrial, agricultural, and other infrastructure that were difficult to imagine before that time.

On the social level, Dr. Farhan said that the region has witnessed a large flow of labour. The Arab countries which are rich in natural resources have the lion's share of the labour force flow, thus enabling them to utilise the most experienced and skilled personnel to develop their economies and build up their infrastructures.

The director-general also expressed hope that participants succeed in understanding the conditions and needs of the labour force in a serious bid to reach successful solutions for the problems facing Arab workforce.

He called on all participants to consider covering Arab labourers working abroad under the social security and insurance plans of the countries in which they work, and enacting a regulation whereby such workers may be entitled to transfer their insurance rights from one country to another.

President of the Amman Chamber of Commerce Islam Budeir outlined the importance of the meeting, saying that it is addressing special topics of discussion, such as counter-migration of labour from oil-rich countries and cooperation among the various business organisations in establishing training programmes.

Another important topic of discussion is the business organisations' role in dealing with the socio-economic results of the transfer of technology.

He added that Jordan relies heavily on remittances from citizens working abroad, stressing that they finance almost half of the country's imports. Mr. Budeir also said that any changes in the labour market for Jordanians will negatively affect the Jordanian economy; thus, proper programming is necessary to ensure that the economy can adapt to changes.

International Labour Organisation representative Ghaleb Burakat said that the quick transfer of technology, and its social and economic consequences, requires continuous attention, so that national and regional technological policies complement development policies. He pointed out that business organisations have an important role in selecting the appropriate technology and in cooperating with other social institutions with the aim of creating a solid national cadre that can employ technology to serve development objectives.

The representative of the Businessmen's Organisation, Rafael Lagas, underscored the necessity of cooperation between employers and labourers, saying that it contributes to creating an atmosphere conducive to the success of both employers and employees.

During the first session, Mr. Budeir was elected chairman of the meeting, while Mr. Zuhair Qanawati of Syria and Mr. Mohammad Hamed Al Aswad from Iraq were appointed vice-chairmen.

Taking part in the three-day meeting, which is organised by the Amman Chamber of Industry, in cooperation with the ILO, are representatives from Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Syria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and Jordan.

## Hamzeh calls attention to need for nurses, primary health care

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh said on Monday that the Ministry of Health directs special attention to primary health care (PHC) because it represents the beginning point of all types of medical care.

Without PHC, Dr. Hamzeh noted, it would not be possible to reach citizens living in remote areas, and it is for this reason that the ministry has embarked on establishing health centres throughout the Kingdom.

Addressing a meeting to discuss a \$1.25 million project for developing nursing and PHC services in Jordan, co-financed by the Jordanian government and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Dr. Hamzeh said that the project aims at upgrading the standards of the nursing profession in Jordan and integrating the PHC programmes into the nursing curricula, so as to enable nurses to serve fully their community health centres, which constitutes the front line for treating simple illness cases.

Dr. Hamzeh stated that Jordan will continue to recruit foreign nurses until the year 2000 to meet the demand for hygiene and sanitation

nurses. The number of foreign nurses in Jordan is 560, he added.

However, he noted that the shortage can not be met locally but only through the establishment of a nursing instructors institute, which forms part of the joint Jordanian-USAID project.

Dr. Hamzeh expressed pride in the advanced standard the project has achieved in immunisation, saying that the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has placed Jordan in the forefront of the Middle Eastern countries which have achieved high immunisation coverage against the major childhood diseases.

The minister also spoke highly of the existing cooperation between Ministry of Health and the Nour Al Hussein Foundation. In 'Am' Al Mutfi, the Ministry of Health's under-secretary, and senior officials from the ministry and the WHO.

The opening session was attended by Director of Nour Al Hussein Foundation In 'Am' Al Mutfi, the Ministry of Health's under-secretary, and senior officials from the ministry and the WHO.

Also addressing the meeting participants was Director of the PHC Department Sultan Qubein.

Director of the PHC Department Sultan Qubein spoke about the importance of health education as a component of PHC, and stressed the need for other PHC requirements, including sufficient and nutritious food, safe water supplies, and sanitation, mother and child care, and control of contagious and endemic diseases.

The opening session was attended by Director of Nour Al Hussein Foundation In 'Am' Al Mutfi, the Ministry of Health's under-secretary, and senior officials from the ministry and the WHO.

The minister described the present situation at a number of these dairy farms as "illegal and in violation of the government's laws."

These calls on dairy farms to adhere with the ministry's legislation regarding the milking process followed an inspection tour by Mr. Hmoud of a number of these farms in the Zarqa area.

According to agriculture experts, the slight contamination in Jordan's milk is chiefly caused by the lack of proper milking methods and the non-availability of electricity at many of these farms, in addition to the unhygienic conditions of milk.

The delegation, whose members arrived in Amman Sunday for a six-day visit at the invitation of Royal Jordanian, the national air carrier, were briefed by Mr. Hamzeh on the country's tourism potentials and his ministry's programmes for stimulating tourism, attracting visitors to archaeological sites in the Kingdom.

The delegation members are being taken on a tour of the Dead Sea, Petra, Aqaba, Jerash, the Jordan Valley, and other places of historical or archaeological interest in the country.

## Expatriate workforce increases

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of Jordanian expatriates working abroad has increased from 200,000 in 1975 to 328,000, said Michael Hamzeh, under-secretary of the Ministry of Information, who briefed them on the situation in the Middle East.

Mr. Hamzeh spoke also on Jordan's efforts, spearheaded by His Majesty King Hussein, towards convening an international Middle East peace conference in which all concerned parties are involved.

He told the nine-member delegation that the proposed conference remains the only means for achieving a just and peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Saudi Arabia tops the list as employer of Jordanian expatriates, with nearly 160,000 employed, followed by Kuwait with 81,000, and the rest are distributed among Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Oman, Libya and Iraq.

Mr. Hamzeh explained Jordan's firm stand with regard to the Gulf war and the dangers

## American press group briefed on Middle East

AMMAN (J.T.) — An American press delegation currently visiting Jordan met here Monday with Michael Hamzeh, under-secretary of the Ministry of Information, who briefed them on the situation in the Middle East.

Mr. Hamzeh spoke also on Jordan's efforts, spearheaded by His Majesty King Hussein, towards convening an international Middle East peace conference in which all concerned parties are involved.

He told the nine-member delegation that the proposed conference remains the only means for achieving a just and peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The delegation members are being taken on a tour of the Dead Sea, Petra, Aqaba, Jerash, the Jordan Valley, and other places of historical or archaeological interest in the country.

## Jordan Red Crescent head calls for full-fledged Islamic organisation to administer humanitarian aid

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Ahmad Abu Qoura, who is also president of the standing committee of the Red Cross and Crescent Societies, said that oppressed and tortured people throughout the world are awaiting the creation of the Islamic Committee of the International Red Crescent.

Addressing the 6th session of the International Red Crescent Islamic Committee, which began here on Monday, Dr. Abu Qoura said that all victims of war, drought and other disasters are yearning to see the committee become a full-fledged Islamic organisation, which functions properly and administers its humanitarian services to achieve social justice.

Dr. Abu Qoura referred to 10 commandments which the caliph Abu Bakr gave to his followers 1230 years ago, which included commands not to kill animals or uproot trees. This story shows that Islam not only calls for the protection of human life, but also provides for protecting animals and nature.

He stressed that the committee requires the support of the Islamic countries, who can turn it into an international organisation which provide services to the entire Muslim World, in line on Islamic teachings which call for

Jordanian government and people, in addition to the JNRCS, for hosting the meeting and expressed hope that the sessions will result in constructive recommendations and solutions.

Mr. Suleiman added that the OIC secretary-general believes that a strong machinery must be set up by all DIC members to establish an effective Islamic organisation for relief, assistance, and development.

President of the Islamic Red Crescent Committee Ahmad Al Sherif expressed appreciation to Jordan for hosting the meetings, and spoke about the committee's attempt to increase social and humanitarian aid. He said that social and humanitarian problems pose a threat to the stability and development in the countries in which they occur. Dr. Sherif added that two more countries — Sudan and Turkey — have become members of the Islamic committee.

## Abu Taleb briefs British military official on Jordan's defence policy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb on Monday received a delegation from the British Royal College of Defence Studies, headed by Major General B.G. Gordon Lennox, and briefed them on the military situation in the region and Jordan's defence policy.

The meeting was attended by the British chargé d'affaires and the military attache in Amman. Lt.-Gen. Abu Taleb and Maj.-Gen. Lennox also listened to a briefing about establishment and development of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Later on Monday, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi received Maj.-Gen. Lennox and the accompanying military delegation and reviewed Jordan's stand vis-à-vis Middle East issues. Mr. Lawzi said that the Palestine question is the core of the struggle in the Middle East and underscored the importance of European involvement, particularly of Britain, in the search for solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Iran-Iraq war, and the occupation of South Lebanon.

Mr. Lawzi stressed that Jordan has worked, and continues to work, towards holding an inter-

national peace conference on the Middle East to be attended by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and the parties involved in the conflict.

He outlined Jordan's unflinching efforts at both the Arab and international levels to bring an end to the conflict. In this regard, he pointed out to Israel's intransigence and its rejection of the U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, saying that such intransigence is the cause of tension in the region.

In addition, Mr. Lawzi spoke about the Parliament issues in Jordan, and said that Jordan has benefited from the original British parliamentary model. However, he added, parliamentary affairs in Jordan has been disrupted in the aftermath of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank in 1967, thus

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## Not in focus, but there

THE Third World debt crisis, which has endangered the world economy since its outset in 1982, seems to have given back seat to the problems of trade imbalances, fiscal deficits, exchange rate instability and upward inflationary pressures that plague the leading industrialised nations.

As the developed countries are busy trying to put their own houses in order, the debt-ridden Third World has been left more or less on its own to fend for itself. Driven to experiment, Third World nations have already tried the shock therapy of traditional formulas and have failed to cure their economic ills. They have frozen and later unfrozen prices and salaries, rationed essential goods, devalued their currencies and introduced new ones, limited or suspended foreign debt payments and controlled imports to protect domestic industries.

They went to the International Monetary Fund and World Bank for help and advice. Argentina began the austral plan, Brazil launched the cruzado plan, Peru and others tightened their belts in tough austerity programmes. But the results have been more or less the same — growth stagnated, output dwindled, living standards fell, inflation spiralled and poverty and social discontent grew, posing a threat to the fledgling democracies in some of these countries. The promises of increased cash flow under the so-called Baker Plan have almost evaporated in thin air with commercial banks generally lending, harring a few exceptions, only as much as to keep the interest payment flowing in.

With the total Third World debt now standing at trillion, constituting 169 per cent of its exports and services, the debtors, especially in Latin America, are now searching for new schemes to overcome the seemingly insurmountable crisis in order to keep their economies from going under. Peru has limited the debt payments to 10 per cent of its export income which has triggered calls for similar freeze on interest payments and has risked the international banking community. Brazil is now seeking, without any success so far, to convert its debt into bonds at a discount. But will these schemes help ease the debt crisis where others have failed is an open question.

In the present circumstances, it appears improbable that the Third World economies will make any headway until the world economy breaks out of its present morass to resume a vigorous expansion. For that the industrialised states have to make sacrifices as well and must demonstrate their political will to swallow some of the bitter medicine they have been eagerly prescribing to the developing and underdeveloped countries.

The IMF, in its latest report, has also called upon the industrialised countries to take tough actions to correct their trade and fiscal imbalances in order to put the world economy back on the rails. Some such measures will top the agenda of the just started IMF-World Bank meetings and it can only be hoped that an agreement is reached there to translate these ideas into concrete action — Arab News, Jeddah.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Hoping against all odds

OVER the difficult years through which our Arab Nation passed in Jordan have never lost for a second hope and confidence in a bright future. We have never abandoned the idea that the Arabs can and will confront and deal with the difficulties and rise again and achieve victories and triumphs. Today our capital Amman is making ready for the coming summit in November. As preparations are going ahead for the big day, our confidence is enhanced because we believe that the coming meeting offers a chance for solidarity and for the Arab heads of states to consult with one another and study means of dealing with the difficulties and problems facing their countries. By agreeing to meet here in several weeks' time, the Arab leaders have thus expressed their true desire to reach agreement on solutions for their problems and realised the seriousness of the Gulf conflict and its dangers to the Arab countries. These leaders also have realised the danger posed by continued Israeli occupation of Arab land and the need for confronting an enemy intent on maintaining occupation of Palestine and seeking to expand at the expense of Arab countries. Amman opens its arms and its heart for the Arab leaders and hopes that their meeting here will usher in a beginning of the constructive steps that should be taken in defence of Arab rights and interests.

### Al Dustour: Iran wants prolonged war

AS the United Nations Security Council embarked on a move to end the differences among its members over dealing with the Gulf conflict, Iran has taken steps to escalate tension in the Gulf region. Iran is clearly trying to exploit differences among the Security Council members to delay any implementation of Resolution 598 and so avoid the council's sanctions for not abiding by the will of the international community. The Iranian parliament speaker has once again declared that his country adheres to its own conditions for accepting the ceasefire called for by the Security Council. At the same time Iranian long range artillery continued shelling the southern Iraqi city of Basra in a bid to cause more tension and invite reprisal attacks by the Iraqi armed forces. The speaker of the Iranian parliament has thus put an end to all rumours that Iran has turned down its conditions after Resolution 598 had been passed. The shelling and the statement from the speaker of Iran's parliament are clear indications that Tehran is going ahead with plans to prolong the war as much as possible and constitute a clear challenge to the international community's call for an end to the war. We believe that any delay in an agreement among Security Council members to end the conflict will remain the major cause for Iran's present attitude.

### Sawt Al Shabab: Rallying Arab ranks

KING HUSSEIN is now involved in strenuous efforts for uniting Arab ranks in preparation for the coming summit meeting in Amman and for arriving at successful results. He tours various Arab capitals meeting with heads of state trying to rally the Arabs for the common cause and of defending the Arab order and fending off dangers posed against the Arab Nation. Jordan has been totally committed to pan-Arab causes and for this reason it was careful to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt and Libya thus setting a good example for Arab states in their inter-Arab relations. King Hussein's call for unity of Arab ranks represents an endeavour designed to safeguard Arab interests and Arab rights. Jordan under King Hussein feels that efforts should be made towards helping Iraq repel aggression and preventing Iran from imposing its hegemony on the Arab countries.

## The View from Second Circle

# I hear confederation, but ponder trifederation

I AM intrigued by the political dynamic that lies behind recent reports of attempts to launch a dialogue between the PLO and the Israeli government — a dynamic which I believe betrays a feeling in both Israel and the Arab World that the Arab-Israeli conflict, and specifically the quest for national rights and mutual acceptance by both Israel and the Palestinians, cannot be achieved by military force, but rather has to be sought through a process of dialogue, negotiations and compromise.

The Arab-Israeli conflict has been pushed backstage during the past two years, following the breakdown of the Jordanian-Palestinian attempt to launch an international peace conference on the basis of the now defunct February 1985 Jordan-PLO accord. That accord never achieved its aims because of several factors, notably lukewarm Arab support, and virtually no response from Israel and the United States.

Though the February 1985 accord did not achieve a breakthrough, the more important fact is that the political position which Jordan and the PLO took in the accord remains valid. Its key elements are an Arab willingness to negotiate a permanent peace settlement with Israel through an international conference, based on the twin rights of Israeli statehood and Palestinian self-determination, and the acceptance by the PLO and Jordan of the principle of a confederal relationship between Jordan and a Palestinian state.

The single greatest obstacle to a diplomatic breakthrough, it seems to me, is the inability of the mainstream of Israeli politicians to recognise the willingness of the Arabs to sit down with Israel at an international conference and negotiate a permanent peace accord. We have reached this point after a series of agonizing compromises since the late 1960s. But our compromises and concessions are largely unappreciated in Israel; except for some faint-hearted moves by some leftist Israelis and by the Peres-led Labour Party, the bulk of Israeli society and leadership does not believe that we are serious about negotiating a permanent peace. And even when the Palestinian national movement, represented by the PLO, makes new concessions, the Israelis and Americans refuse to recognise them.

The latest case in point was the Algiers session of the Palestine National Council earlier this year, where Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian mainstream succeeded in reuniting the PLO, and in so doing included such "hardline" groups as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine among the overwhelming Palestinian consensus for a negotiated solution via an international peace conference.

While most international observers, including journalists, diplomats and academics, saw the PNC as moving the PLO to a more hardline position, it would seem to me that leaving the PFLP and the DFLP for the first time publicly to support the call for a negotiated resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict is a move towards moderation and compromise. But, it appears that this is not

enough, and the American-Israeli combine demands more clarity in our willingness to "recognise Israel's right to exist" and to negotiate on the basis of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

If we view this fact along with the reasons for the failure of the February 1985 accord and the stated position of the PLO, Jordan and the rest of the Arab World on negotiating peace with Israel, we might come up with a more bold approach to challenging the Americans and Israelis to negotiate at an international conference. The fact is that under the right conditions (recognition of the Palestinian right to self-determination) and in the desired forum (an international conference), the Arabs are willing to negotiate peace with Israel, recognise it formally, and coexist with it in peace.

Why, then, should we remain snagged on the unfair and imbalanced procedural demands of the U.S.-Israeli axis, for PLO recognition of 242/338 and Israel's right to exist? Our position is substantively correct, to be sure; but if only perpetuates diplomatic immobility and stalemate.

We should consider bold new initiative designed to get around the sterile game of footsie with the United States, and provide a more clear peace challenge that might activate the Israeli peace lobby which we have always suspected exists. Specifically, I think it would be intriguing if Jordan and the PLO reassessed their positions and took the confederal model to its logical conclusion: A tripartite confederation, or a trifederation, among Israel, Palestine and Jordan.

The thought is tantalising in the point of absurdity in the present circumstances. But isn't this the most logical arrangement that would emerge if the Israeli-Americans ever accepted our present position and entered into talks leading to a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation? I think it is, for the following reasons:

1) It is imperative that we formulate an approach to peace that would, in one fell swoop, convince the Israelis that we are serious about a permanent peace, one which would simultaneously assure Israel's "right to exist" while implementing the Palestinians' right to national self-determination. What better formula for equal Israeli-Palestinian rights than confederal links as equals? The key would be to maintain our position demanding Palestinian self-determination leading to Palestinian sovereignty and ultimately to confederation between Jordan and Palestine, while making more clear our willingness to live in peace with an Israel that returns our lands, repatriates or compensates our dispossessed people and ceases to pose a threat to neighbouring Arab states. A trifederal model would seem to fit the bill very neatly, however hard it might be to swallow today.

2) A trifederation would simultaneously assert the special relationship between Jordanians and Palestinians, while providing a legal mechanism by which Palestinians in Israel or non-Jordanian passport holding Palestinians in Jordan would have the right to a Palestinian passport that also allowed them legal privileges, such as

employment and commercial endeavour, in both Jordan and Israel

3) The material wellbeing of Israel, Jordan and a Palestinian trifederal statelet in the West Bank and Gaza would be best assured through cooperative arrangements in such areas as water, transport and transit trade, labour, heavy industry, tourism, agricultural exports, education, health care, technology and research, and manpower training. I have no doubt that a trifederal Jordan/Palestine/Israel would soon emerge as the new Japan of the area between Western Europe and the Pacific Basin. The three states would have a combination of human talent, geographic advantage, natural resources and an appreciation for peace and stability that would be hard to match — and hard to stop in developmental terms.

4) Military security and the psychological and physical intricacies of peaceful coexistence would be guaranteed by tripartite security arrangements, including joint patrols by personnel from the three trifederal partners, joint observation posts in the highlands, shared access to satellite and other aerial reconnaissance facilities that would be agreed upon, and mutually agreed zones of limited armament or even reciprocal demilitarisation in some areas.

5) And the final triumph of a trifederal arrangement would be Jerusalem, as the shared trifederal capital of the three component states, and the seat of a trifederal assembly with representatives from the three component state deeming issues of common concern, such as regional water sharing programmes, a monetary union, and trifederal security. Each state would also maintain its own domestic political structure, capital city and leadership, thereby maintaining the sovereignty rights and distinct political identity of each people while simultaneously assuring both symbolic and practical shared arrangements which would cement the regional peace.

It is ludicrous, of course, to think of such arrangements today, when the bitter ranges and Arab-Israeli relations are characterised by suspicion, mistrust and perpetual killing. But if we talk of a negotiated settlement at an international conference, and of signing a permanent peace accord with Israel, and granting the Palestinians the right of national self-determination, and entering into a confederal arrangement between Jordan and Palestine, are we not talking, in the final analysis, about three small statelets in the land of mandated Palestine and Transjordan?

I think we are, and I also think that if this is what we are willing to accept in the end, we would do well to recognise and admit this today, to capitalise on it in diplomatic terms, and to make a gigantic leap above the petty stubbornness and domestic disequilibrium of assorted Holy Land Semites and Americans, and reach for a vision of peace which satisfies all our demands — and which, in good measure, gives fresh meaning to the shared Abrahamic code of ethics which has seen our lands give rise to the three monotheistic religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

President Hissene Habre, saying that it takes seriously Chadian charges that Libyan forces have used chemical weapons.

Gabonese President Omar Bongo, chairman of an OAU committee studying the dispute, described the talks in Lusaka as a step in the right direction and Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, a former OAU chairman, said it was a good conference.

Going further, OAU Secretary-General Ide Oumarou said: "We know we will achieve a peaceful solution."

All three based their assessment on the fact that Libya was present at the Lusaka talks. But an Ivory Coast official commented: "To hail Libya's pre-

success as a major success is an implicit admission that the gathering achieved nothing of substance."

They were asked by the OAU to submit legal documents supporting their claims by Oct. 30.

The next stage in OAU peace-making will be for cartographers and legal experts from a number of African countries to meet between November 30 and December 30 to discuss the historical and legal aspects of the rival claims.

West African diplomats noted that neither side had pledged to abide by an expert decision on the ownership of Aouzou.

They also said any minor border incident could trigger a new flare-up in the absence of a peacekeeping force to separate Chadian and Libyan troops.

They went to Egypt to study in 1964, then to university in Damascus, where he graduated from the faculty of philosophy and letters in 1968.

He continued his studies at the Sorbonne in Paris before returning to Tunisia in 1969.

In the early 1970s, he helped found an Islamic review called Al Maarif (Knowledge), and became editor-in-chief in 1977.

He was arrested in March this year for defying a ban on preaching in the country's mosques, where he had a reputation for fiery oratory. He appeared most frequently at Ben Arous mosque, near Tunis.

Ghannouchi has six children. His wife, shrouded in the married Muslim woman's white salsari wrap, regularly appeared in court to listen to the hearings.

TUNIS (R) — His beard shaved to leave only a drooping moustache, Islamic party leader Rachid Ghannouchi sang with other defendants during his trial that he was ready to lay down his life for his religion.

"We are not afraid of the supreme sacrifice and we are ready to die for our faith," he sang with the other accused in the opening stages nearly a month ago of a mass trial of Islamic fundamentalists in Tunisia.

The pledge, expressed softly in brief, spontaneous chanting by the assembled defendants, was made after the presiding judge read out our charges against them carrying death sentences.

When the trial ended on Sunday, Ghannouchi himself was sentenced to life imprisonment for plotting to overthrow the government with help from Iran, while his co-defendants were tried in their absence.

A former philosophy professor, Ghannouchi, 47, began organising his Islamic following in the 1970s, but it was not until 1981 that the Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI) was formally founded.

A slight man with wavy, greying hair, Ghannouchi was sentenced in 1981, shortly after the MTI was established, to 10 years hard labour on charges including membership of an illegal organisation.

More than 90 fundamentalists were sentenced in that trial, but Ghannouchi and other MTI leaders were pardoned three years later.

Ghannouchi, who wore a red fez and cream jellaba throughout the trial, was among 53 defendants in the state security court accused of plotting to overthrow the government. Thirty-seven

of them were tried in their absence.

The changing of Islamic songs, underlining the religious bond among the defendants, had been repeated in the trial, but after the first day it was quickly interrupted by police in the courtroom.

Although Ghannouchi was a devout Muslim, the court did grant one request to follow the tenets of his faith.

He interrupted its session during Ghannouchi's more than four-hour defence to allow him to say his prayers.

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of them were tried in their absence.

The court adjourned the trial to Oct. 30.

TUNIS (R) — His beard shaved to leave only a drooping moustache, Islamic party leader Rachid Ghannouchi sang with other defendants during his trial that he was ready to lay down his life for his religion.

"We are not afraid of the supreme sacrifice and we are ready to die for our faith," he sang with the other accused in the opening stages nearly a month ago of a mass trial of Islamic fundamentalists in Tunisia.

The pledge, expressed softly in brief, spontaneous chanting by the assembled defendants, was made after the presiding judge read out our charges against them carrying death sentences.

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Ghannouchi was born in El Hamma, southern Tunisia, in 1941.

Friends describe Ortega as a man of simple, uncomplicated tastes and pleasures, a tough, street-wise revolutionary who still does not feel fully at ease in a more urban, sophisticated setting.

"He's come a long way, though," said a West European diplomat. "Time was, he always seemed tense, even surely in social gatherings. ... I credit his wife for a change."

The diplomat was being diplomatic: Ortega does not have a "wife," Nicaragua's first lady, Rosario Murillo, 36, is known as *la compañera* — the companion. She and the president have lived together for 11 years and have six children, but no marriage licence.

Rosario, as she prefers to be called, is the product of an upper-middle-class Managua family, and British and Swiss schools. Fluent in French and English, she is a published poet in Spanish and secretary general of Cultural Workers.

They met while Ortega was serving time for the bank holdup. Poems he wrote in prison were sent to the newspaper La Prensa, where she worked as a secretary. She sent him some of her own poetry and a romance blossomed.

Rebel since age 13, Nicaraguan leader battles U.S.

# Our Father which art on earth

By Walter Schwarz

GOD is dead, said Nietzsche. And now Don Cupitt, *enfant terrible* of British theology, says metaphysics is dead too, and so is philosophy. Only language remains — the shifting signs and symbols of human culture that imprison our thought, and make nonsense of the very idea of anything existing "out there."

The Rev. Don Cupitt, Dean of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, has been notorious since his *Sea of Faith* television series, and the book of the film, in 1984, for arguing that God has no objective "out there" existence; yet remains valid as "a personalised religious ideal who has supreme authority in our lives and shows us the way to true selfhood."

Now, in *The Long Legged Fly* he explains this religion in terms of modern linguistic philosophy — a dry and sterile material for most of us — out of which Cupitt distills a warm and convivial creed that is optimistic and even left-wing.

Cupitt is a household word for extreme theological liberalism, a name too shocking even to mention in the general synod. Introducing the Doctrine Commission's latest, quite daring statement of faith last July, the Bishop of Salisbury assured the synod that in the report's index under the letter C "a certain well-loved luminary of the Cambridge theological faculty does not figure."

Cupitt borrows his long-legged fly from a poem by Yeats about a pond skater, an insect that can interpret tiny ripples on the water. "It makes a world out of such minimum materials, and so must we," writes Cupitt. "Like the pond skater's world, our theology will have to be perfectly horizontal."

The new book is hard, absorbing reading; beginners should start with the *Sea Of Faith*, a classic guide to the long road from Plato's vision of an ideal higher world — the origo of the God "out there" — to the apparently inevitable and irreversible cultural relativity of today.

"Religion can never rise above the perpetual flux of scientific and philosophical speculation," Cupitt insists in his new book; such speculation is pointless anyway. So we can have no more fixed dogma. "It is up to us to re-imagine Christianity, to re-invent faith for our time."

All this because "our thinking, our selfhood, our very humanity, are constituted within language, in such a way that we have nothing to think ourselves right out of language with." So all those old philosophical arguments over "reality" as opposed to what we see, feel and think have become pointless: "they have simply dissolved, vanished, melted away."

This frees us, at last, to emancipate ourselves from the great dualisms of the past — passions versus reason, body against soul, expression against cognition. Christianity remains relevant precisely because, properly inter-

preted, it brings God back from heaven into this world. For Cupitt God can exist nowhere but in our minds. "He is no sort of a being." He is our personal concept in a "world of meaning in which nothing is self-same and everything is relative and differential."

He said his new book represents a conversion from the "protestant individualism" he held until three years ago, to something more social. "Instead of demythologising Christianity down into the inner experience of the individual, I'm trying instead to demythologise Christianity down into this public world of meaning in which we live, this world of language — the objective human world."

"There's a big difference between individualistic humanism and social humanism, but the background of repudiating the old metaphysics is the same. That's been on the agenda since the 18th century when the old supernaturalism was destroyed by Hume, Kant, Hegel, Schleiermacher and the Romantics. And then, bringing religio down into the world of human experience was Wordsworth, Blake..."

This "social" faith keeps Cupitt voting on the Left, though he says he isn't political. "Christianity has got to leave its individualistic tradition behind. The object, is not to save yourself but to give your life."

Obviously, he has little time for the doctrinal positions of the Church of England — for whom "truth" is a matter of politics: there's continuity with the past to be maintained, extreme conservatives to be placated. If Christianity is a living religion then we've got to reinvent it all the time and I'm just trying to do that. It's needed in every institution that's come down to us from the past."

Cupitt thinks Catholicism better adapted to this exercise, because it has mechanisms for doctrinal change that the Church of England lacks.

But there is progress all the same. "You could say we are all non-religious nowadays, we're all increasingly understanding doctrine as a sort of ethical guideline rather than as descriptive. For

example, when the Zeebrugge ferry capsized, or when there's a drought in Africa, people treat such an event as a challenge to Christian ethics and action rather than as a problem for Christian theory; they don't ask why God let such a thing happen. It means they've given up the old interventionist idea of God and are moving towards a more man-centred, activist idea of religion."

Cupitt's own religion is "about keeping the moral order in repair, it's about a framework of symbolism for us all. The problem is that church has to reform at the institutional level and that one can't see. For example, I get a lot of letters from people complaining bitterly about their difficulties with worship."

So who does Cupitt pray to? To himself? The question caused a



Don Cupitt: Do conjuring trick with bones

rare pause, and rare Um. And then: "I see prayer as rather more like meditation. I take the idea of God as something like a guiding spiritual ideal that you use to orient your life by. God is our values, God symbolises the goal of spiritual life. Prayer is a way of thinking about oneself and what one lives by and what direction one's life goes. But if we thought of prayer as if it were literally talking to a being out there, it would be pagan and slavish."

Again, he takes it as axiomatic, but never proves, that there can be no cognition without words. Some of Cupitt's own words seem to slip, as if by accident, into his exposition that do not entirely match his non-philosophy. He said he saw prayer "as a method of self-examination, a way of expressing oneself in religious adoration and thanksgiving."

Adoring whom and thanking whom? Can we adore and thank something inside ourselves?"

Besides, "the incarnation and life-after-death are incompatible ideas, because incarnation is the absolute bringing together of the two worlds. At the early stages of human culture you want to make certain basic intellectual distinctions, between reason and feeling, heaven and earth, spirit and flesh, holiness and sin, and these get mythologised by philosophy and by religion. But they've got to be brought together again, otherwise we get divided; they split us."

Who can heal the split, and who is tomorrow's priest? He is the artist, says Cupitt — the only practitioner who unites intuition, culture and feeling without bothering too much about "realities out there," still less about doctrine.

"Once the idea of a Christian was a martyr. Then the idea was the Saint. Then, after the Re-

formation, the idea was the hero of faith, I think in the future the artist will be the model."

Cupitt convinces by the rigour and humanity of his quest, even though there are loopholes. Of some he is aware. Thus, to assert there can be no fixed dogma is itself a fixed dogma. "The world has become so relative there's no absolute truth, so you can't even say that without risk of paradox."

And the next world? There is only "objective immortality," in which we are aware of others who have died. "I honestly don't know what another world than this could possibly be. Suppose you ask of such a life what language they talk, what dialect, of what period, what kind of culture — could you really imagine a human being whose not on this earth, not in some particular country, speaking some particular language in some particular community? If you abstract everything that makes a human being, what have you got left?"

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Ryder Cup tournament ends

## Europe hails triumphant golfers

Americans upset at home ground

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher sent a message of congratulations to winning golf team captain Tony Jacklin Monday as Europe's historic Ryder Cup victory over the United States made front-page news across the continent.

Newspapers in Britain, Spain, France and West Germany paid glowing tributes to Jacklin's players, the first European team to win the cup on American soil in 60 years of Ryder Cup competition. They reserved special praise for Spain's Severiano Ballesteros, the tournament's star performer.

Thatcher, who linked her husband Denis, a keen golfer, with her congratulations, said: "Denis joins me in saying how thrilled we were about the Ryder Cup victory. We watched it as much as we could on television. It is a real triumph for Britain and Europe."

The victorious team, travelling home by Concorde, was being met at Heathrow Airport later Monday by British Sports Minister Colin Moynihan.

Europe's upset victory at the Muirfield Village golf course at Dublin, Ohio, was splashed across the front and back pages of most of Britain's 11 national newspapers in an euphoric display of sporting patriotism.

"Beaten in their own back yard," trumpeted the London Daily Mail's front-page lead story in big, bold capital letters.

"One of sport's last seemingly impregnable bastions crashed yesterday when Europe's golfers finally won the Ryder Cup," the paper said. "It was certainly the ultimate nerve test for the European team since they played not only America's most powerful side but a 25,000 crowd whipped into patriotic fervor by Jack Nicklaus, America's non-playing captain."

The Guardian published two large photographs, one on the front page showing Ballesteros in action, the other of the Spaniard celebrating victory with Jacklin.

"A European star-spangled stunner," was the paper's headline on the European success. Below, it wrote: "They (American fans) finally had to fur their flags... and admit defeat."

The Guardian criticised the Americans for being too dismissive before the tournament of the European challenge. "They have talked incessantly about how superior their tour is to any other in the world and how, therefore, the golfers who play on it are also the best in the world."

"And yet, at Muirfield Village, of all places, on a course built by Jack Nicklaus, against a team captained by Jack Nicklaus, the Europeans proved... that they were the better team," The Guardian wrote.

"Not a hint of a fluke and



Seve Ballesteros



Nick Faldo

victory."

Without any Frenchmen in the team, the prestigious French sports paper, *L'Equipe*, relegated its report of the Ryder Cup on an inside page.

But Ballesteros' performance was again featured prominently, the paper describing the Spaniard as "the soul of the European team."

The Europeans won the cup in the United States for the first time—and for only the fifth time overall—when they defeated the highly vaunted Americans by 15 points to 13.

"It was a dream come true for us today," European captain Jacklin said after receiving the gold cup at the awards ceremony.

The defenders had gone into Sunday's 12 singles matches leading by five points but the Americans did not go down without a fight.

Before Ballesteros beat Strange 2 and 1 to clinch the victory, the Americans, with their backs to the wall, gave the visitors and their small contingent of vocal fans quite a scare.

The hosts won five of the first seven matches decided and halved another, delighting a gallery of more than 20,000 cheering, flag-waving Americans on a beautiful sunny day.

However, just as they did throughout the three-day series, the Europeans proved that they were up to the task of beating the Americans on their home ground.

"It definitely wasn't a fluke," Irishman Eamonn Darcy said after he defeated veteran Ben Crenshaw 1-up in one of the most dramatic matches of the day.

Crenshaw broke his putter in anger after three-putting on the sixth hole and putted with his 1-iron the rest of the way.

"After that happened, I felt like somebody shot me," he said.

Ballesteros, Darcy and Howard Clark of Britain registered the victories for Europe while Scotsmen Sam Torrance and Gordon Brand Jr. and Bernhard Langer of West Germany drew their matches.

## Khan wins squash title

HONG KONG (R) — Jansher Khan of Pakistan has scored a comprehensive 9-6, 9-2, 9-5 victory over Australia's Chris Pittman to win the Hong Kong Squash Open title and complete his hat-trick of tournament victories.

Third-seeded Jansher, who beat world number one Jahangir Khan 9-2, 10-8, 9-2 in Saturday's semifinals, looked tired at times in the final on Sunday but his ability to extract himself from seemingly-impossible situations carried him through.

Triumphs in the Singapore, Malaysian and now the Hong Kong Opens have elevated the

18-year-old Jansher to number two in the world and he is now pointing for Jahangir's top spot.

"The three victories will improve my ranking from four to two and my next objective is to reach number one," said Jansher, who is seeded to meet Jahangir in the final of the Pakistan Masters this week.

Dittmar, who crushed world champion Ross Norman of New Zealand 9-0, 9-0, 9-4 in Saturday's other semifinal, said Jansher had played well in the final but cautioned against regarding him as invincible just because he had won three titles in a row.

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## Real threat to Napoli

LONDON (R) — Confident Real Madrid will be looking to crown a month of triumph by clinching a European Cup first-round win over Napoli in Naples on Wednesday.

Real took their winning streak to five games, with 23 goals for and one against, by beating Las Palmas 2-0 away on Saturday.

"If we knock Napoli out, this will have been a glorious month," said Real coach Leo Beenhakker.

Real, who won the first leg 2-0 two weeks ago, are leaving nothing to chance. They are even training with Italian balls which are a little heavier than Spanish ones.

Napoli have had an unhappy build-up to Wednesday's tie. They were beaten 1-0 away by Pisa on Sunday and forward Alessandro Renica was struck on the forehead by a coin thrown from the crowd.

Diego Maradona was reunited with Brazilian Star Careca, back from injury, but Napoli's attack fired blanks as they went down despite playing against 10 men for the last 50 minutes. Paul Elliott, formerly with English clubs Luton and Aston Villa, was sent off for a foul late in the first half.

"As far as we were concerned the match ended after the first half," captain Maradona said.

Fernando de Napoli said trainer Ottavio Bianchi told the team to consider the match with Pisa over and play calmly without risking injuries ahead of the crucial Real match.

"The match against Real Madrid is too important to risk and the game against Pisa was already over for us," he said.

Golds by Mexican Hugo Sanchez and Yugoslav Milan Jankovic against Las Palmas extended Real's winning run on Saurday and put them in great heart for their clash with Napoli.

By contrast, 1986 champions Barcelona sank deeper into trouble by losing their fourth straight game, 1-0 to Athletic Bilbao. The catalan club, which replaced British coach Terry Venables with Luis Aragones last week, have collected only three goals in five matches.

Firepower in the Italian league on Sunday was supplied by Welsh International Ian Rush. He made a stunning home debut with two goals as Juventus beat Pescara 3-1.

The win pushed Pescara off the top of the table in favour of Roma, 3-2 winners at Avellino. Juventus climbed to third.

Rush, signed for \$4.6 million from Liverpool, had missed the first five weeks because of injury but had a premonition he would hit the target after a disappointing league debut last week.

"To be the real Rush I just need goals and the match against Pescara looks exactly the right occasion," the striker said before the match.

European champions Porto had to settle for a 1-1 league draw at Braga on Sunday before their trip to Yugoslavia to defend a 3-0 first-leg lead over Vardar Skopje, while Belgian champions Anderlecht warmed up for their second leg against Sweden's Malmoe by beating Winterslag 3-0. Australian Edi Krnecic hitting a bat-trick.

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## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.6400/10	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3120/30	Canadian dollar
	1.8240/50	West German marks
	2.0530/30	Dutch guilders
	1.5135/45	Swiss francs
	37.85/88	Belgian francs
	6.0775/0825	French francs
	1316'1317	Italian lira
	144.15/25	Japanese yen
	6.3990/4040	Swedish crowns
	6.6650/6700	Norwegian crowns
	7.0065/0115	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	460.50/461.00	U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices were around the day's highs in late trading as the market shrugged off last week's worse than expected August trade figures, dealers said.

An early 30-point jump on Wall Street also helped sentiment, with most interest centring around special situations. The market showed little reaction to the weekend's G-7 meeting which, as expected, reaffirmed the Louvre accord on currency stability and did not produce any significant new policy measures.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was 23.9 points higher at 2,366.5, having reached a high of 2,369.6 at 1403.

Ian Harwood, equity director at Warburg Securities, said: "The only effect meetings like G-7 will have on shares is if they spark a rise in interest rates, either in the U.S., Germany or Japan. This could easily have a knock-on effect in the U.K."

He said any near-term fall in the dollar, which many here expect, will have limited impact on U.K. equities as most major exporting companies are just as vulnerable to a drop in the European currencies as to a fall in the dollar.

Dealers said after the shock of the trade data last week the consensus was that the market's fall was overdone and that U.K. interest rates are likely to remain stable for some time.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1987

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Fletcher Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The major difficulty you'll face today is a tendency to believe you must force issues or engage in confrontations in order to achieve your aims. Actually, a diplomatic attitude and tact would be more effective.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You'll have some fine new ideas, but don't get bogged down by details and forget the main points. Avoid any boring routines today.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't waste your time investigating pleasures which you know are too expensive. Show your mate your devotion — vocally.

GEORGINA (May 21 to June 21) Leave the house early and see the prominent people who can help you to become more popular. Public work will be very beneficial.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) This is a fine day to handle some important activities which you've been putting off. Handle your correspondence tonight.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Think about some amusements you've enjoyed in the past and get them again now. Take your mate out for a good time tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Try to help some family friends attain their ambitions, and put aside your own wishes for now. Invite an interesting guest into your home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) This is a fine day for accomplishing much in the business world. Be more positive when dealing with others. Enjoy a hobby.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Focus your attention on increasing your income by forgetting pleasure for a while. Steer clear of friends who may distract you today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) This is not the day to ask a favor of a superior. Try to be more self-reliant, and don't depend on friends to pull you out of a jam.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Steer clear of a new contact who could easily get you into some big trouble. Your greatest happiness can come from your mate.

ARQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) The company of a long-time friend and some relatives will help you forget your worries. Avoid an argument with your mate.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Tend to your credit affairs which have some hidden problems. A superior will be quite receptive to granting you a needed favor today.

If Your Child Is Sick Today

He or she will be a serious and disciplined student who can do quite well at teaching, lecturing, etc. Teach your progeny early to smile more and develop a lighter spirit which will increase his or her popularity. Your child is apt to be a favorite of older people who will appreciate the serious and sensible approach to life.

The Stars Impel: they do not compel. "What you make of your life is largely up to you!" © 1987, McNaught Syndicate.

## Jordanian industrial shares excel

Sector	Number of shares traded	% of total	Volume of trade	% of total	Number of contracts	% of total
<b>Banks and financial companies</b>						
1984	1,050,936	52	1,714,573	59	1,809	47
1985	322,159	65	6,351,503	86	3,012	68
1986	368,588	37	1,383,485	63	1,149	46
1987	1,587,068	37	2,346,956	40	1,102	23
<b>Insurance</b>						
1984	180,901	9	239,203	8	246	6
1985	77,470	4	249,818	4	204	5
1986	49,275	5	72,353	3	104	4
1987	123,612	3	287,155	5	132	3
<b>Services</b>						
1984	131,280	7	133,011	5	346	9
1985	109,078	5	100,313	1	154	3
1986	180,106	18	149,215	7	238	10
1987	190,336	4	150,752	2	164	4
<b>Industries</b>						
1984	659,191	32	830,680	28	1,486	38
1985	534,494	26	668,118	9	1,080	24
1986	394,095	40	580,217	27	1,012	40
1987	2,415,273	56	3,104,929	53	3,305	70
<b>Grand total</b>						
1984	2,022,308	—	2,917,467	—	3,387	—
1985	2,043,201	—	7,369,752	—	4,450	—
1986	992,064	—	2,185,270	—	2,503	—
1987	4,316,289	—	5,889,792	—	4,703	—

The above table compares trading activities that took place at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) during the month of August for the years 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987. The figures for August 1987

appeared in the AFM's monthly bulletin which was released last week. Volume of trade is given in Jordanian dinars.

## G-10 turns down Spain, Australia

WASHINGTON (R) — Australia and Spain were rebuffed on Sunday in their bid to join one of the select clubs of rich nations that helps determine world economic policy.

"We're pretty disappointed by the decision," said Mr. Julio Duran of the Bank of Spain's foreign department. "We can't understand the logic of it."

Neither nation won the unanimous support that was necessary to join the so-called Group of Ten (G-10), although a majority of the group's members supported them. British Chancellor of the Exchequer (Finance Minister) Nigel Lawson told reporters.

At Sunday's meeting, Mr. Lawson acted as chairman of the G-10, which groups Belgium, Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Sweden, the United States and West Germany, as well as Switzerland.

Australia and Spain argued that they should be allowed into the club because their economies were bigger than some of the nations that are already members.

Lower farm output and energy shortages caused by the weak monsoon will force factories to produce only four per cent more than in 1986/87 when the increase was 8.9 per cent, said Mr. Pai Panandikar, secretary-general of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

"Gross national product (GNP) is also likely to grow only two per cent in 1987/88... but the economy should pick up from mid-1988," he said in an interview. India's GNP grew five per cent last year.

India's trade deficit, which amounted to \$7.47 billion rupees (\$672 million) in 1985/86, could also climb marginally this year because of lower agricultural exports and rising imports, he said.

India would have to import at least 400 million rupees (\$30 million) more of edible oil after

drought severely hit the groundnut crop in the western state of Gujarat, he said.

India buys between eight to 10 billion rupees (\$615 to \$770 million) worth of edible oil, mostly Malaysian palm oil, a year.

Oil and petroleum imports are

likely to rise by about seven billion rupees (\$540 million) because of the energy shortfall," he said.

Mr. Panandikar said an estimated 10 per cent fall in farmers' income will also affect domestic demand for fertilisers, farm vehicles and equipment.

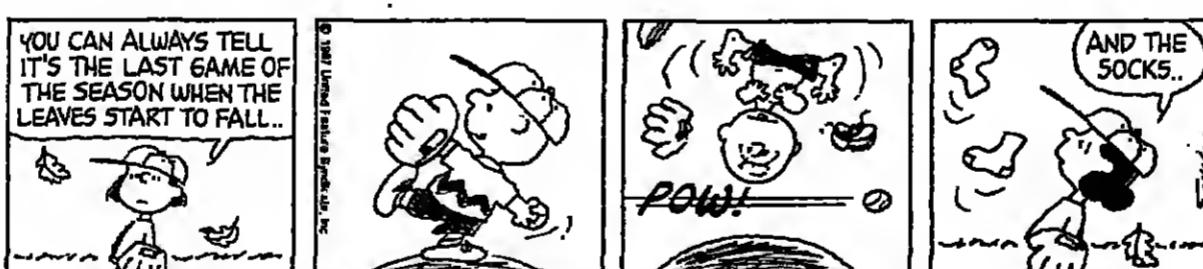
He said recent government moves to raise taxes and duties on non-essential imports will also affect demand for consumer goods from the urban population.

The government announced on Sept. 21 it would impose a five per cent surcharge on taxpayers and corporations earning more than 50,000 rupees (\$3,850) a year to help raise an additional 19 billion rupees (\$1.46 billion) this year needed for emergency relief.

Mr. Panandikar said latest estimates show that foodgrain output will fall to between 135 and 140 million tonnes from 151 million last year.

India has increased its installed capacity for power generation to a current 50,000 megawatts, but national demand still outstrips supply by eight per cent and many factories are running below capacity because of constant power cuts.

## Peanuts



## Mutt'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## Economist sees challenges for banks in Arab nations

BAHRAIN (R) — Banks in the Gulf region will be forced to modernise their services following a decline in corporate and trade financing opportunities, Gulf International Bank (GIB) said in an economic report on Sunday.

The Bahrain-based bank's economist, Mr. Henry Azzam, said a boom in infrastructure building and a double digit growth of imports in the 1970s had encouraged banks to extend a disproportionate percentage of their loans to trade and construction.

But total imports to the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states declined by a third between 1982 and 1985 while public sector expenditure on construction had dropped in most countries after peaking in 1983.

The new conditions meant banks in the region would have to rely more on the retail sector, which was wide open to banks willing to make the investment, Mr. Azzam said.

"The Gulf region's 15 million people still prefer to use cash in

most cases. Banks need to cultivate cashless banking habits among their customers and reap the benefits of recent technological developments in this field," he said.

A few banks in the region had still not computerised their current account operations, while others did not yet have plans to introduce automatic teller machines.

Electronic funds transfer at point of sale and other electronic banking services had not reached the region.

Mr. Azzam said a smaller return on loans had led several commercial banks to emphasise treasury products and offer alternative investment channels to the region's investors.

The products included unit

## Iran oil exports to U.S. soar

WASHINGTON (R) — Iran has become the second largest supplier of crude oil to the United States, providing Tehran with about one-third of its total oil revenues, the Washington Post reported on Monday.

The Post, quoting a new analysis of U.S. oil imports, said a surge in Iranian shipments to the United States this summer had pumped more than \$700 million into Iran's war-torn economy.

The surge — which coincided with growing military and diplomatic tension between the two countries — was documented in a U.S. Commerce Department fi-

le.

Iran is trying to buy at least \$40 million worth of oilfield equipment from U.S. companies in a bid to replace machinery and rebuild facilities damaged by recent Iraqi air attacks, Mr. Roberts was quoted as saying.

## Fiji's governor-general rejects Rabuka ultimatum

Commonwealth chief calls coup leader a 'racist'

SUVA, Fiji (R) — Fiji's embattled governor-general Sir Penia Ganilau rejected a demand on Monday that he recognise coup leader Col. Sitiveni Rabuka as the nation's leader. Col. Rabuka told Reuters.

"The governor-general did not accept," Col. Rabuka said as he hurriedly got in his car after a late-evening conference at Queen Elizabeth Barracks with his battalion commanders.

"We (the military) will just carry on and we'll think up new tactics tomorrow," was all he would say as he left the barracks.

Military sources said Col. Rabuka hoped to meet Ganilau again on Tuesday. They said Col. Rabuka had not yet carried out a threat to sack Ganilau and abolish his post, though he earlier told diplomats he had abrogated the constitution.

The sources said Ganilau and Col. Rabuka met for more than an hour at the governor-general's residence. No comment was available from aides of Ganilau, who had been running the country since Col. Rabuka's first coup on May 14.

Col. Rabuka, who wants political supremacy for ethnic Fijians, told Reuters before the meeting that he would insist Ganilau accept him as leader following his second military takeover in five months.

"The dismissal is just a legal way, the only way, of legitimising my assumption of the executive authority of the land," Col. Rabuka said in an interview.

The 39-year-old colonel said he did not believe Ganilau would accept his authority or his plan for a new constitution to give ethnic Fijians permanent political power, adding that he was prepared to die for that aim.

## U.S. supports Solidarity, Bush says

WARSAW (AP) — U.S. Vice President George Bush has signaled "great affection" and support for the outlawed Solidarity movement while endorsing financial help sought by ruling Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski.

"We support Solidarity and we support pluralism and we've been very clear on that" in discussions with government officials, the vice president told Solidarity figure Lech Walesa at a dinner Sunday hosted by Americans.

"We've got great affection for

you and support you," he said.

Mr. Walesa, who once was interned under martial law, said he was thankful for what Mr. Bush had done and was "asking for more."

With demonstrations of Solidarity support erupting around him as he made his way through several public appearances, Mr. Bush also appeared at one point to lash a "victory" sign favoured by the organisation's backers.

"I assume he knew what the

## Reagan: U.S. must not listen for footsteps

NEW YORK (R) — The United States must make bold moves in defence of democracy and not "listen for footsteps" like a foot-ball player who is beset by fear of injury, President Reagan wrote in a magazine article.

The article, in *Life* magazine published on Monday, was accompanied by articles from three former U.S. presidents written to coincide with the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. constitution.

Mr. Reagan wrote: "Just 20 years ago, America seemed uncertain of its responsibilities, lacking a resolve ... and backing away from a consistent, committed foreign policy."

"A similar sort of syndrome is known in the game of (American) football. It's called 'hearing footsteps.' It occurs when a player, often a receiver, is hit hard and perhaps shaken up."

"If we are to continue to prosper we cannot listen for footsteps," Mr. Reagan wrote. "America's future requires a renewed dedication to our goals of democracy and peace."

Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, the only three living former U.S. presidents, said the United States held major responsibilities in meeting global problems.

"Such problems are poverty, world hunger, deforestation, desertification, air and water pollution, Third World debt, and overpopulation will increase unless concerted action is taken by the foremost nations," Mr. Carter wrote. "Our country has a special responsibility with its unequalled leadership capabilities."

Mr. Ford wrote that the United States must get control of its finances or it will recede as a world power.

## 41 die in Indonesian bus fire

JAKARTA (R) — Forty-one trapped passengers burned to death and 11 were injured when a crowded bus exploded in flames as it sped down a highway in Indonesia, police said on Monday.

An East Java police spokesman said in Surabaya that the charred bodies of trapped passengers were recovered from inside the bus after the explosion on Saturday. The other 11 people, who broke windows to escape, were in hospital with severe cuts and burns.

Survivors said they believed the explosion was caused by a cooking stove aboard the bus.

The bus had just passed through a toll gate on the East Java Highway on Saturday night when the explosion occurred, killing among its victims seven children and a troupe of traditional comedians.

"We are having difficulty in identifying the victims because they were so badly burned," the police spokesman told Reuters by telephone.

"We are still investigating the cause of the accident," he said, adding that the driver of the ill-fated bus had run away.

He said 20 ambulances sped to the scene, but stood by for almost half an hour because rescue workers could not get into the burning bus. "We believe the fire spread rapidly," he said.

The daily *Kompas* quoted a survivor as saying he heard an explosion from the rear part of the bus. It was followed by the fire which spread quickly through the seats and curtains.

He said panicky passengers tried to escape as the bus slowed to a stop, but could not get out of the locked rear door. Some survivors fled through the front door and others had to break through the windows.

**Hirohito cancels trip to Okinawa**

TOKYO (R) — Japan's Emperor Hirohito, recovering from an intestinal operation, announced on Monday that he would not make a controversial trip to the southernmost Japanese island of Okinawa scheduled for next month.

The trip would have been the first visit to Okinawa by the 86-year-old emperor, but it was opposed by leftist radicals and some of the island's people who hold him responsible for leading Japan to defeat in World War II.

In 1945 Okinawa was the scene of one of the war's bloodiest battles, in which nearly a quarter of a million soldiers and Okinawa civilians died.

"I truly regret not being able to make the visit to Okinawa due to my unexpected illness," said Hirohito in an official statement read by a court official.

"I wish to convey my feeling of eagerness to make the trip as soon as possible after my health improves."

The Japanese establishment had hoped the visit would close the book on the battle of Okinawa, and signal Okinawa's complete integration into Japan. The island was under U.S. control from 1945 until its reversion to Japan in 1972.

**Gore, Dukakis clash again during debate**

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis lectured Tennessee Senator Albert Gore to "get your facts straight," but six Democratic presidential hopefuls generally were in harmony in supporting sweeping arms control agreements and an end to military aid to Nicaragua.

The sharp exchange between Sen. Gore and Governor Dukakis came during a two-hour debate before an arms control forum that featured mainly sharp attacks on President Ronald Reagan and gentle jabs among the Democrats who said they were struggling "for the direction of the Democratic Party."

Sen. Gore and Mr. Dukakis began their feud at a similar debate last month, with Sen. Gore demanding more specifics about Mr. Dukakis' economic policies. On Sunday, Sen. Gore accused Mr. Dukakis of advocating the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea.

"I never made that proposal," Mr. Dukakis retorted. "I never suggested that."

Sen. Gore later branded any proposal to withdraw forces from Korea as "wildly unrealistic" and Mr. Dukakis continued to insist after the debate he never suggested such a thing, insisting he only wanted to push for more democratic freedoms in the country.

"We have got to maintain democracy," Sen. Gore said. "Our party must be strong on national defence."

Mr. Dukakis suggested that

## Over 100 killed in Colombian landslide

MEDELLIN, Colombia (AP) — A landslide roared down a mountain and buried a neighbourhood in Colombia's second-largest city beneath 3 metres of mud and rocks, killing at least 100 people, officials said.

Mayor William Jaramillo Gomez told Caracol, Colombia's largest radio network, that at least 100 people were killed, another 200 injured and 500 missing after tonnes of mud and rocks buried about 60 houses following three days of torrential rains.

"We heard the noise that sounded like an explosion and soon afterward a huge mass of rocks and mud descended upon," said Mary Mosquera, who lost three daughters in the avalanche.

"They were trapped by huge rocks and we couldn't do anything to rescue them."

"I thought an airplane had crashed into the mountain," said Alirio Garcia, a neighbourhood resident who rescued numerous injured victims and recovered bodies. "It was horrible."

Officials at the local morgue said Sunday night it had 80 bodies and local hospitals reported another 14 bodies.

Firefighters said many more bodies could be trapped underneath the mud and rocks. They risked being buried themselves by more mudslides as they continued looking for survivors, using searchlights in the darkness.

**Argentine army regiment ends four-hour protest**

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — About 150 officers from an army regiment in suburban Buenos Aires confined themselves to their barracks for four hours Sunday night and early Monday to protest the transfer of their commanding officer.

The rebels, with painted faces and carrying automatic weapons, refused to leave their quarters at Tablada, 15 kilometres south west of the capital, to protest the transfer of their leader, Lt.-Col. Dario Fernandez Maguer, the Argentine news agency Telam said.

**Seoul government candidate starts presidential campaign**

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's government candidate for December presidential elections, Rob Tac-Woo, began his first provincial campaign tour on Monday as a conservative rival announced the formation of a new party.

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## COLUMNS 7 & 8

### Celebrities gather for AIDS benefit

CHICAGO (AP) — Angela Lansbury, Oprah Winfrey and other celebrities gathered Sunday for a \$1-million benefit for AIDS research sponsored by Marshall Field's Department Store. "A Show of Concern: The Heart of America Responds" was a benefit for the AIDS Foundation of Chicago and the American Foundation for AIDS Research. The two-hour sell-out performance also featured Peter Allen, Colleen Dewhurst, Jerry Herman, Chita Rivera, Leslie Uggams and five Chicago choirs. Tickets, priced at \$15 and up, had gone on sale on Aug. 24. People who contributed \$1,000 or more also were invited to a supper and dance with the stars following the performance. Cheryl Levin, a spokeswoman for the benefit, said it is the first on such a scale in Chicago. Lily Tomlin and Bette Midler sent a short tape. Ms. Levin said Elizabeth Taylor sent a telegram, calling the benefit a shining example of the partnership that will unite the world in defeating AIDS. The performance also honoured Fritz Holt, a Broadway producer who helped organise it before he died of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) last summer.

"We've reached the \$1-million goal," Ms. Levin said. "But when you're talking about AIDS research, it's only a drop in the bucket."

### Replica of Santa Maria sets sail

VERACRUZ, Mexico (AP) — A replica of the 15th century ship Santa Maria that Christopher Columbus used in his voyage to the new world set sail Sunday for Europe. Thousands of people, waving Mexican and Spanish flags, gathered in this port city on the Gulf of Mexico to take part in the festivities marking the send-off of the *Marigalante*. The ship takes its name from the original name of the Santa Maria. It was the product of six years' work and the effort of more than 100 craftsmen. Vital Alsar, the project's creator and ship's captain, said the idea to build a replica originated eight years ago, with a view to the 500th anniversary of Columbus' voyage of discovery in 1492. He said he hoped the new Santa Maria will create a stronger bond of understanding between the Americas and Spain. Alsar, a 53-year-old resident of Veracruz, designed the 33-metre ship with the help of engineers from his native Spain. He said they used more than 30 kinds of tropical woods, and there were legal requirements that the ship be outfitted with navigational equipment and an auxiliary motor.

### U.K. ferry sold for scrap

LONDON (AP) — The Herald of Free Enterprise car ferry, which claimed 189 lives when it capsized off the Belgian coast in March, has been sold for scrap to a Dutch salvage firm. Press Association, the domestic British news agency, has reported. Ferry owners P and O refused to reveal any details of last week's sale, including the price. Press Association said: "There is no way we would ever want to see the ferry sail again." Press Association quoted an unidentified P and O spokesman as saying: "We do not feel that would be appropriate in the circumstances." The ferry capsized on March 6 after taking in water through bow doors left open as it sailed from Zeebrugge, Belgium, to Dover, England. The ferry's owner was known as Townsend Thoresen at the time of the disaster, but decided in July to take on the name of its parent company, P and O European Ferries Ltd.

### Super-speedy trains hit Italian rails

ROME (AP) — The first of four new "super-rapido" trains departed from Rome and reached its final destination of Milan in a speed of 4 hours and 55 minutes. The new Rome-Milan trains, travelling at speeds of up to 200 kph (124 mph), shave about an hour off the 632-kilometre (393-mile) trip in an ordinary "rapido." The new trains depart Rome daily at 0800 GMT and 1855 GMT. The 102,000 lire (\$78) one-way, first-class ticket includes lunch or dinner in one of two restaurant cars and various other supplementary charges. Three hostesses offer newspapers, magazines and coffee to passengers in their seats. The introduction of the "super-rapido" is the first step in a modernisation programme by the Italian rail system that foresees the use of trains capable of travelling 300 kilometres per hour, making the Rome-Milan trip in 3 hours, 15 minutes, railway officials said.

### Soviet pianist plays at White House

WASHINGTON (R) — Soviet pianist Vladimir Feltsman gave his first concert in the United States on Sunday and fulfilled a dream he said sustained him during eight years awaiting an exit visa — to play at the White House. "I am deeply touched," Feltsman told reporters after a 45-minute concert in the gold and white East Room. "Nobody cannot (but) dream to begin his career as a musician at the White House." "So I am very happy and I appreciate it with all my heart," said the 35-year-old pianist whom President Reagan lauded in remarks after the concert as "extraordinary, brilliant ... among the great musicians in the world." Feltsman, a Soviet Jew, who arrived in the United States in early August, played America's national anthem and works by Schumann, Beethoven, Liszt, Rachmaninoff and Debussy. Feltsman told the Wall Street Journal in an interview published on Friday his dream of playing at the White House sustained him through eight years of waiting for an exit visa. "That you manifest no bitterness (at the long delay) is proof that you are not only a great musician — it is proof you are a hero of the human spirit," Mr. Reagan said.

### Chinese want more risks in life

PEKING (R) — Chinese people regard themselves as industrious, obedient and thrifty but increasingly want a life of risk rather than security, according to a nationwide opinion poll. The China Daily said on Monday most of those polled said China's national character was conservative rather than adventurous but they themselves wanted more competitive jobs even at the risk of unemployment. It said the pollsters believed the results showed that conservative attitudes which could hamper the country's modernisation were changing. Pollsters commissioned by government bodies asked 4,244 city dwellers to select three words which best described the national character from a list. Half chose "industrious" and "frugal" and more than a third selected "realistic," "conservative" and "obedient" while 18.6 per cent chose "intelligent" and only 2.7 per cent "adventurous," the newspaper said. More than 50 per cent said they would rather have a rewarding job with the risk of unemployment than easier but secure work, it added. The newspaper said most people might have chosen safety rather than risk if the poll had been conducted a few years ago. It quoted an official as saying the results of the poll, conducted by young interviewers, were more reliable than earlier surveys by government employees.

### Report: Raisa Gorbachev was seriously ill

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has not been seen in public since the beginning of August because his wife Raisa became seriously ill following an appendectomy, a Swedish newspaper reported Saturday. The daily Expressen said prominent Soviet eye surgeon Svetoslav Fyodorov made the revelation late Friday night to Mikael Lonn, a Swedish colleague visiting Moscow. There was no indication that Mrs. Gorbachev's purported ailment had anything to do with the eyes, however. The paper said Mrs. Gorbachev, 53, suffered from complications in connection with an appendix operation. It said she had been seriously ill for 14 days and that Mr. Gorbachev decided to prolong his vacation to stay with her. Expressen's report followed speculation in the West that something may have happened to the Soviet leader, who has not been seen in public since Aug. 7. But Expressen said Mr. Gorbachev had not been ill at all and that he was now back in Moscow. Expressen quoted Lonn as saying Fyodorov told him he spoke with Mr. Gorbachev by telephone last Tuesday and that the Communist Party leader told him his wife had been in surgery because of complications from appendicitis.

## H & R Club opening soon

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